

**REMARKS**

This responds to the Office Action dated October 18, 2004.

Claims 1 and 7 are amended, and no claims are cancelled or added; as a result, claims 1-9 remain pending in this application.

**§112 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant has amended the claims to reflect a structure and configuration of the virtual routers, based on discussion of virtual router examples in the specification (see, e.g., p. 8, ln. 8-p. 9, ln. 12).

**§102 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Salkewicz (U.S. Patent No. 6,609,153).

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Rao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,674,756).

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Rekhter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,463,061).

Applicant has amended the pending claims to reflect that the virtual routers comprise software executing on one or more processors to better define the term “virtual router”, and has made claim amendments to the independent claims to reflect that in the claimed system of subscriber virtual routers and a system virtual router, the subscriber virtual routers comprise virtual routers executing on software-configurable processor resources from a pool of a plurality of available processors. This feature distinguishes the pending claims from what is found in Salkewicz, Rao, and Rekhter, which fail to teach implementation of multiple subscriber virtual routers using selected processing resources from a pool of multiple processors for each subscriber virtual router.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests reexamination and allowance of the pending claims.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612) 349-9581 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

Mar 2006

By



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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Petitions, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 2 day of March, 2006.

JACLYN SKIBA

Name



Signature